Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02 AGR-20 USIE-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 DLOS-07 DRC-01 /183 W ------ 070458

O R 141945Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0145 INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 1428

E.O. 11652: N/A DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: EFIN, ECON, VE, GY

SUBJECT: \$US 15.7 MILLION VENEZUELAN LOAN TO GUYANA

REF: GEORGETOWN 1081

1. GOG PRESS ANNOUNCED TODAY 8/14 US \$15.7 MILLION INTEREST FREE LOAN FROM VENEZUELA TO BE REPAID OVER TWENTY YEARS, WITH FIVE YEAR GRACE PERIOD. LOAN REPRESENTS MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN GUYANA-VENEZUELA RELATIONS, AND IS LARGEST SINGLE OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO GUYANA SINCE ONSET OF FINANCIAL CRISIS.

2. COMMENT:

LOAN WILL MOST LIKELY BE USED TO FINANCE
ONGOING CAPITAL PROJECTS SUCH AS SEA DEFENSES AND AGRICULTURAL
EXPANSION. LOAN PLUS UNEXPECTED HIGH YIELD FROM SUGAR EFPORT
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LEVY (NOW ANTICIPATED TO BE ABOUT US\$29 WILLION) COULD SALVAGE GOOD

PORTION OF GOG'S 1974 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM. CAPITAL BUDGET IS OFFICIALLY SET AT US \$82.5 MILLLION BUT PROBABLY WILL NOT GREATLY EXCEED LAST YEAR'S LEVEL OF US\$46.6 MILLION, WHEN REDUCED TO REFLECT PRICE INFLATION. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT GOG BASED 1974 CAPITAL PROGRAM ON ASSUMPTION IT WOULD RECEIVED US\$36 MILLION

IN LOANS FROM OTHER THAN TRADITIONAL SOURCES.

EXTRA BORROWING TO MEET PAYMENTS OF IMPORT BILL AS WELL AS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, UNLESS IT CAN NEGOTIATE TERMS AS SOFT AS THOSE VENEZUELA OFFERED. KREBS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, JOINT VENTURES, LEVIES, GOVERNMENT

EXPENDITURES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)

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Declassified/Released US Department of State

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EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE

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